

York, near the bridge from Whitehall. It was associated here with such plants as *Potentilla Anserina*, *Proserpinaca palustris*, and a ripened sedge of the *Eleocharis palustris* group. As it is fruiting rather heavily in its new home it is more than likely to spread, especially along the marshy rice-meadows of southern Lake Champlain, and ought soon to be reported from Vermont.

This "Flowering Rush" has a large umbel of pink flowers, the three sepals and the three petals veined with darker color. It has six separate carpels, and has no placentae, the seeds being borne directly on the sides of the carpel in large numbers.—CLARENCE HINCKLEY KNOWLTON, Hingham, Massachusetts.

BUTOMUS UMBELLATUS IN THE LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN

W. C. MUENSCHER

WHILE crossing the temporary bridge over South Bay, an arm of the southern part of Lake Champlain, on August 16th, 1929, my attention was attracted by what from a distance appeared to be a large *Allium*-like plant growing in extensive areas of muddy flats and shallow water along both shores. Upon closer examination the plant proved to be the flowering rush, *Butomus umbellatus* L., of the family *Butomaceae* closely related to the *Alismaceae*. As far as I am aware, this species has been reported in North America only from Canada where it grows over extensive areas in marshes along the St. Lawrence River.

During the latter part of August, while I was engaged in a study of the aquatic vegetation of Lake Champlain as a part of the biological survey of the Lake Champlain watershed conducted by the New York State Conservation Department, I had an opportunity to observe that *Butomus* is very generally distributed in the marshes and shallow water bordering the southern part of Lake Champlain. It was not observed in the northern part of the lake. In Washington county, New York, *Butomus* was observed in the following localities: South Bay, very abundant on clay flats and in water up to one meter deep; Whitehall, along the border of a mill pond and along the Champlain canal from Whitehall northward for about ten miles to the Dresden Narrows in Lake Champlain. In Vermont *Butomus* was observed in Rutland county, along the shore of Lake Champlain northward to the Dresden Narrows, and in Addison county along the outlet of East Creek.

In Europe *Butomus* occurs in marshes and along borders of streams and lakes from Italy northward to Norway. Thomé¹ gives a good colored plate and description of the species. *Butomus* not only produces many seeds but also numerous small cornlike buds are developed on the submerged rhizome. It is, therefore, well adapted for spreading rapidly under favorable conditions.

Knowlton,² 1923, in discussing the distribution and rapid spread of *Butomus umbellatus* along the St. Lawrence River, concluded with the following statement: "As it has many seeds it would seem quite possible for it to work gradually up the St. Lawrence and its tributaries, so that some day it may make its appearance by Lake Ontario or Lake Champlain within the limits of the United States." The extent of the area already occupied by *Butomus* in the southern Champlain Valley indicates that probably it became established prior to 1923. It is now one of the dominant species of the marsh and shore vegetation in this region, and in the future it may be expected to appear in similar situations over a wider area.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

SOME NEW SPECIES AND VARIETIES FROM OREGON

L. F. HENDERSON

SCIRPUS malheurensis, sp. nov. Stems 18–24 dm. high; primary involucre bract slightly exceeding the inflorescence, secondary ones much shorter; spikelets cylindric-ovoid, 8–12 mm. long by 4–5 mm. thick, greenish-brown, 2–4 in the clusters; rays from sessile to 2.5 cm. long; scales much cleft, their edges ciliate with long many-celled hairs; midvein long-excurrent, the tip either included between the long lobes of the scale or rather long-aristate, serrate or hispid with long fang-like brown teeth which are 1-celled and extend, reduced in size, far down the back of the scale; filaments of the 3 stamens strap-shaped; bristles 6, slightly longer or shorter than the akene, retrorsely barbellate to near the base; style 2-cleft; akene 2–2.5 mm. long, 1.25–1.5 mm. wide, obovate, plano-convex and often angled on the back, generally light-olivaceous, strongly mucronate, finely pitted under high magnification.—In water or on wet shores of Malheur Lake, Harney County, OREGON, July 15, 1927. My no. 8655.

Close to *Scirpus acutus* Muhl., but differing in having the involucre

¹ Thomé, *Flora von Deutschland* 1: p. 84. 1886.

² Knowlton, Clarence H. *Butomus umbellatus* on the St. Lawrence River. *RHODORA* 25: 220–221. 1923.